

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A coated glass article comprising:

a glass substrate;

a layer comprising diamond-like carbon (DLC) with sp^3 carbon-carbon bonds

5 provided on said glass substrate; and

wherein said layer comprising DLC is ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposed so as to cause the layer to have a contact angle θ with a drop of water thereon of no greater than about 20 degrees.

2. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein the layer is UV exposed so as

10 to cause the layer to have a contact angle θ with a drop of water thereon of no greater than about 15 degrees, and wherein the layer has an average hardness of at least 10 GPa.

3. The coated glass article of claim 2, wherein the layer is UV exposed so as

to cause the layer to have a contact angle θ with a drop of water thereon of no greater than about 10 degrees.

15 4. The coated glass article of claim 3, wherein the layer is UV exposed so as

to cause the layer to have a contact angle θ with a sessile drop of water thereon of no greater than about 8 degrees.

5. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein the layer was characterized by

a contact angle θ of greater than 20 degrees and was thus non-hydrophilic prior to the

UV exposure, and the UV exposure caused the contact angle θ of the layer to decrease to a value(s) of 20 degrees or less.

6. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein a top portion of the layer is at least partially oxidized so that a surface portion of the layer comprises carbon oxide
5 which functions to prevent the bulk of the layer from becoming oxidized.

7. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein the layer comprising DLC includes at least one dopant comprising at least one of nitrogen (N) and boron (B), and wherein said at least one dopant causes bonds in said DLC inclusive layer to be more polar so as to lower the contact angle of the layer.

10 8. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein the layer comprising DLC is provided on the substrate over a low-E coating.

9. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein the low-E coating comprises at least one Ag layer.

10. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein the coated glass article
15 comprises the following characteristics:

visible transmittance (Ill. A, 2 deg.): > 60%

UV transmittance: < 38%

IR transmittance: < 35%.

11. The coated glass article of claim 1, wherein no more than about 70% of the bonds in the layer are sp^3 bonds, and wherein at least about 20% of the bonds in the layer are sp^2 type bonds.

12. A method of making a coated article, the method comprising:

5 ion beam depositing a diamond-like carbon (DLC) inclusive layer on a substrate;
and

exposing the DLC inclusive layer to ultraviolet (UV) radiation in a manner sufficient to cause a contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer to decrease by at least about 20%.

10 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said exposing of the DLC inclusive layer to UV radiation causes the contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer to decrease by at least about 30%, and wherein the layer has an average hardness of at least 10 GPa.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said exposing of the DLC inclusive layer to UV radiation causes the contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer to decrease
15 by at least about 50%.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said exposing of the DLC inclusive layer to UV radiation causes the contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer to decrease by at least about 70%.

16. The method of claim 12, further comprising applying water to the DLC inclusive layer in a manner which causes contact angle decreasing to proceed faster than if no water was applied to the DLC inclusive layer.

17. The method of claim 12, wherein the exposing to UV radiation is performed by a UV source prior to significant exposure of the DLC inclusive layer to ambient atmosphere including sun and rain.

18. The method of claim 12, wherein after at least part of the UV exposure the contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer is less than or equal to 20 degrees.

19. The method of claim 12, wherein after UV exposure the contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer is less than or equal to 15 degrees.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein after UV exposure the contact angle θ of the DLC inclusive layer is less than or equal to 10 degrees.

21. The method of claim 18, wherein the DLC inclusive layer has an average hardness of at least 10 GPa.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the DLC inclusive layer has an average hardness of at least 20 GPa.

23. A coated article comprising a DLC inclusive layer supported by a glass substrate, wherein the DLC inclusive layer has a contact angle θ less than or equal to 10 degrees.

24. The coated article of claim 23, wherein the DLC inclusive layer has an average hardness of at least 10 GPa.

25. The coated article of claim 24, wherein the DLC inclusive layer has an average hardness of at least 20 GPa.

26. The coated article of claim 23, wherein the DLC inclusive layer is ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposed so that the contact angle θ of the layer dropped at least 20% as a result of the UV exposure.

27. The coated article of claim 23, wherein the layer includes at least one dopant, the at least one dopant being at least one of boron and nitrogen.

28. The coated article of claim 23, wherein a top portion of the DLC inclusive layer is at least partially oxidized so that a surface portion of the layer comprises carbon oxide which functions to prevent the bulk of the layer from becoming oxidized.

29. The coated article of claim 28, wherein oxidation of the top portion of the DLC inclusive layer is due at least in part to UV A exposure of the DLC inclusive layer.

30. The method of claim 12, wherein said exposing of the DLC inclusive layer to UV radiation causes a top portion of the DLC inclusive layer to become oxidized thereby forming a top portion of the DLC inclusive layer comprising carbon oxide.